

4 April 2018  
Our ref: IR232251

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information received on 8 March 2018. This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please see information below.

*A) Can you please categorise how those known to the team dealing with elective home education became known? E.g. School, Doctor, self-referral, concerns about the educational provision reported etc.*

- Predominantly from schools
- Some self-referrals
- School Admissions
- Social care
- Health

*i) Does the local authority seek to satisfy itself that the educational provision the parent(s) are providing is suitable to the child's age, aptitude, ability and any SEN as soon as they become aware that parents are electively home educating, regardless of how they become known to the local authority?*

Yes, unless they have been referred by another local authority officer along with a very recent assessment of education provision

*ii) How many instances have there been from June 2016, 2017 and to the date of this FOI where the person dealing with elective home education has or has had concerns that a 'suitable' education is not being provided?*

Four

*B) I would also appreciate it if this information could be broken down into categories:*

*1) whether they feel that no education is taking place?*

Four

*2) whether they feel that the philosophy of education is inadequate - for example in the case of autonomous or child led learning, that the particular child is not appearing to be learning 'enough'?*

Not applicable

*3) whether there are concerns because the family have not implemented a structured approach?*

Not applicable

*4) or whether the fact that the national Curriculum is not being followed is causing concern?*

Not applicable

*5) a qualified third party is not involved in the child's education?*

Not applicable

*6) An educational report has not been provided by a third party such as; a teacher etc.*

Not applicable

*C) I would like to know of these children, how many of these concerns were proven?*

All have subsequently been escalated to Child Protection Conference reviews. Lack of education provision was a major factor in social care deciding to proceed to conference.

*i) Of the children in the above 6 categories, please indicate if further steps have or are being taken - for example, referred to CME or issued with a School Attendance Order. Please break it down into each year asked for.*

*All were picked up by Social Care and became Child Protection or Child In Need cases with all plans stating that enrolment at a school was necessary.*

*ii) Please indicate how many of these went to court in 2016 and 2017.*

None

*iii) Please also indicate if any Education Supervision Orders are currently in court for this population?*

None

*Finally, please provide all recorded documentation relating to elective home education including policies, procedures (2015 - present) and recorded communications relating to elective home education (2017 - present), including any e-mail attachments. This does not include communications between the Elective Home Education team and electively home educating parents or information that falls under S40 (which I expect to be redacted).*

National guidance/legislation is located here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education>

The Home Education parental guide is attached.

I hope this information is useful. If you are dissatisfied with the way in which your Freedom of Information request has been dealt with you can request an internal review. Tell us why you are unhappy with our response within 40 working days, and it will be looked at afresh. We will aim to provide you with our review response within 20 working days.

By email: [xxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx](mailto:xxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx) (Please quote the reference number above) or by writing to:

Freedom of Information  
London Borough of Lambeth  
P.O. Box 734  
Winchester  
S023 5DG

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the review you have a further right to appeal to the Information Commissioner, who regulates the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act. The Commissioner can be contacted at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Enquiry line: 0303 123 1113

Thank you for your interest in Lambeth Council.

Yours sincerely

Complaints & Information Officer